



Attorney Docket No. MP/157

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Palacios et al
Appl. No. : 10/026,108
Filed : 12/20/2001
Title : Apparatus and Method for
Applying Reinforcement
Material To A Surgical Stapler

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
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Melanee Williams

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Grp/Art Unit : 3739

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Within the past three months applicant has received an International Search Report and documents related to the captioned patent application. A copy of the search report is enclosed herewith. Some of the documents in the International Search Report have previously been submitted to or cited by the Examiner, therefore these documents are not listed on the attached Form PTO 1449, and copies of these documents are not included herewith.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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